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TEN MINUTES ADVICE

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Every Purchaser

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H O R S E

O U T O F A

Dealer, Jockey, or Groom's Stable.

To which is added, the most approved

RECEIPTS for the CURE of HORSES,

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Embellished with two fine Copperplate Cuts,

Full FIGURES of a HORSE,

In different Attitudes.

 M U L T U M i n P A R V O .

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M D C C L X X X I X .

1789





Ten Minutes Advice, &c.

NOTHING more true than the common observation, that in the art of horsemanship, the most difficult part is that of giving proper directions for the purchasing a horse free from fault and blemish. The deceptions in this branch of traffic being looked on in a less fraudulent light than they seem to deserve, and of consequence are more frequently practised, it shall therefore be my business in the following brief remarks, to shew, in the best manner I am able, the imperfections which, from either nature or mischance, every horse is liable to.

In the Stable.] See the horse you are about to purchase in the stable, without any person being in the stall with him; and if he has any complaint in his legs he will soon shew it, by altering the situation of them, taking up one and setting down the other; and this denotes his being foundered or overworked.

On ordering him out, let no-one be the last in the stable but yourself; you should also, if possible, be the first in, least the owner, or some of his quick emissaries, take an opportunity to fig him; a practice common among dealers, in order to make the tail shew as if carried very high, when, in reality, the day after, he will in appearance, be five pounds worse.

The Eyes.] This is the proper time to examine his eyes, which may be done in a dark stable with a candle, or rather in the day time when he is led from the stall; cause the man who leads him to stop at the stable door just as his head peeps out, and all his body is still within. If the white of the eye appears reddish at the bottom, or of a colour like a withered leaf, I would not advise you to purchase him. A moon-eyed horse is known by his weeping, and keeping his eyes almost shut at the beginning of the distemper: as the moon changes, he gradually recovers his sight, and in a fortnight or three weeks sees as well as before he had the disorder. Dealers, when they have such a horse to sell, at the time of his weeping always tell you that he has got a bit of straw or hay in his eye, or that he has received some blow: they also take care to wipe away the humour, to prevent its being seen; but a man should trust only himself in buying of horses, and above all be very exact in examining the eyes: in this he must have regard to time and place where he makes the examination. Bad eyes may appear good in winter, when snow is upon the ground; and
often



often good ones appear bad, according to the position of the horse. Never examine a horse's eyes by the side of a white wall, where the dealers always choose to shew one that is moon-eyed.

The moon-eyed horse has always one eye bigger than the other, and above his lids you may generally discover wrinkles or circles.

If you observe a fleshy excrescence that proceeds from the corner of the eye, and covers a part of the pupil, and is in shape almost like the beard of an oyster, though seemingly a matter of no great consequence, yet it is what I call a witlow in the eye, and if suffered to grow, it draws away a part of the nourishment of the eye, and sometimes occasions a total privation of sight. On the contray, if the eyes are round, big, black and shining; if the black of the eye fill the pit, or outward circumference, so that in moving very little of the white appeareth, they are signs of goodness and mettle. The eye which in general is esteemed the best, is that which is neither small nor large; but be sure to observe that the chrySTALLINE be thoroughly transparent, for without that, no kind of eye can be said to be good.

Countenance.] After having carefully satisfied yourself as to his eyes, let him be brought out, and have him stand naked before you; then take a strict view of his countenance, particularly with regard to the chearfulness of it, this being an excellent glass to observe his goodness and best perfections. Be careful you are not deceived

by the marks in his face, as frequently a good-looking star is made of cat's skin. If his ears be small, sharp, short, pricked, and moving; or if they are long, but yet well set on, and well carried, it is a mark of goodness; if they are thick, laved, or lolling, wide set, and unmoving, they are signs of dullness, and of an evil nature.

A lean forehead, swelling outward, the mark or feather in his face set high, with a white star or ratch of an indifferent size, and even placed, or a white snip on the nose or lip, they are all marks of beauty and goodness: on the contrary, a fat, cloudy, or frowning countenance, the mark in his face standing low, as under his eyes, if his star or ratch stand awry, and instead of a snip his nose be raw and unhairly, or his face generally bald, they are signs of deformity.

Strangles.] Handle his cheeks, or chaps, and if you find the bones lean and thin, the space wide between them, the thropple or windpipe big as you can gripe, and the void place without knots or kernels, and the jaws so great that the neck seemeth to couch within them, they are all signs of great wind, courage, soundness of head and body: on the contrary, if the chaps are fat and thick, the space between them closed up with gross substance, and the thropple little, they are signs of short wind and much inward foulness. Should the void place be full of knots and kernels, beware of the strangles or glanders, the former of which may be easily discovered by a swelling between the two nether jawbones, which discharges a white matter. This disorder usually appears about

about three, four, or five years old; there is no young horse but what is subject to it, either perfectly or imperfectly; there is also a disorder which is called the Bastard Strangles, which appears sometimes like, and sometimes different from the true strangles. The bastard strangles are what proves the horse has not thrown off his true strangles, but that some foul humours are still left behind; this disorder may come at four, five, six, or even seven years of age. A continual languor at work, and seemingly perpetually weary, without any visible ailment, is a certain sign that he is not clear of this disorder, which sometimes will affect the foot, the leg, the ham, the haunch, the shoulder, the breast, or the eye, and without care in this latter case, may corrupt the pupil of the eye, as the small-pox does in men.

Morfoundering.] There is also another disorder, much like the strangles, which is called Morfoundering, and appears by a running at the nose, but the swelling under the jaws is less.

Glanders.] The glanders are discovered by a running at the nose, either on the one side or the other: Feel if he has any flat glands fastened to the nether jaw, which give him pain when you press them; and remember that a running at one nostril is worse than at both.

Vives.] When the jaws are strait, that the neck swelleth above them, it is a sign of short wind; but if the swelling be long, and close by his chaps, like a whetstone, then be sure he has the vives, which is a distemper most frequent in high

high mountainous countries, especially to horses that are not used to the crudities produced in the stomach by the spring and fountain waters that rise in hilly grounds: Standing waters, or those of very little current, are the least dangerous, and seldom cause the vives; but very deep wells are bad.

Nostrils.] If his nostrils be open, dry, wide, and large, so as upon any straining the inward redness is discovered; if his muzzle be small, his mouth deep, and his lips equally meeting, they are signs of health and wind: but should his nostrils be strait, his wind is then little. Should you find the muzzle to be gross, his spirit will be dull.

If his mouth be shallow, he will never carry the bit well; and if his upper will not reach his under lip, old age and infirmity mark him for carriage.

Age.] Respecting the age of a horse that is fit for work, he should have forty teeth: twenty-four grinders, which teach us nothing; and sixteen others, which have their names, and discover his age. As mares usually have no tusks, their teeth are only thirty-six. A colt is foaled without teeth; in a few days he puts out four, which are called pincers, or nippers; soon after appear the four separators: next to the pincers, it is sometimes three or four months before the next, called corner teeth, push forth. These twelve colt's teeth, in the front of the mouth, continue, without alteration, till the colt is two years, or two years and a half old, which makes it difficult, without great care, to avoid being imposed

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imposed on during that interval, if the seller finds it is his interest to make the colt pass for either younger or older than he really is; the only rule you have then to judge by is his coat, and the hairs of his mane and tail. A colt of one year has a supple, rough coat, resembling that of a water spaniel, and the hair of his mane and tail feels like flax, and hangs like a rope untwisted; whereas a colt of two years has a flat coat, and straight hairs, like a grown horse.

At about two years and a half old, sometimes sooner, sometimes later, according as he has been fed, a horse begins to change his teeth. The pincers, which come the first, are also the first that fall; so that at three years he has four horse's, and eight colt's teeth, which are easily known apart; the former being larger, flatter, and yellower than the other, and streaked from the end quite into the gums.

These four horse pincers have; in the middle of their extremities, a black hole, very deep; whereas those of the colt are round and white. When the horse is coming four years old, he loses his four separators, or middle teeth, and puts forth four others, which follow the same rule as the pincers. He has now eight horse's teeth and four colt's. At five years old he sheds the four corner, which are his last colt's teeth, and is called a horse.

During this year also, his four tusks (which are chiefly peculiar to horses) come behind the others; the lower ones often four months before the upper; but whatever may be vulgarly thought, a
horse

horse that has the two lower tusks, if he has not the upper, may be judged to be under five years old, unless the other teeth shew the contrary; for some horses that live to be very old never have any upper tusks at all. The two lower tusks are one of the most certain rules that a horse is coming five years old, notwithstanding his colt's teeth may not be all gone.

Jockies and breeders, in order to make their colts seem five years old when they are but four, pull out their last colt's teeth; but if all the colt's teeth are gone, and no tusks appear, you may be certain this trick has been played: another artifice they use, is to beat the bars every day with a wooden mallet, in the place where the tusks are to appear, in order to make them seem hard, as if the tusks were just ready to cut.

When a horse is coming six years old, the two lower pincers fill up, and instead of the holes above-mentioned, shew only a black spot. Between six and seven the two middle teeth fill up in the same manner; and between seven and eight the corner teeth do the like; after which it is said to be impossible to know certainly the age of a horse, he having no longer any mark in the mouth.

You can indeed only have recourse to the tusks, and the situation of the teeth, of which I shall now speak.

For the tusks you must with your finger feel the inside of them from the point quite to the gum. If the tusk be pointed flat, and has two little channels within side, you may be certain
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the horse is not old, and at the utmost only coming ten. Between eleven and twelve the two channels are reduced to one, which after twelve is quite gone, and the tusks are as round within as they are without; you have no guide then but the situation of the teeth. The longest teeth are not always a sign of the greatest age, but their hanging over and pushing forward, as their meeting perpendicularly, is a certain token of youth.

Many persons, whilst they see certain little holes in the middle of the teeth, imagine that such horses are but in their seventh year, without regard to the situation the teeth take as they grow old.

When horses are young, their teeth meet perpendicularly, but grow longer, and push forward with age; besides the mouth of a young horse is very fleshy within in the palate, and his lips are firm and hard: on the contrary, the inside of an old horse's mouth is lean both above and below, and seems to have only the skin upon the bones. The lips are soft and easy to turn up with the hand.

All horses are marked in the same manner, but some naturally, and others artificially: The natural mark is called Begne; and some ignorant persons imagine such horses are marked all their lives, because for many years they find a little hole, or a kind of void in the middle of the separators and corner teeth, but when the tusks are grown round, as well within as without, and the teeth point forward, there is room to conjecture,

in proportion as they advance from year to year, what the horse's age may be, without regarding the cavity above-mentioned.

The artificial manner is made use of by dealers and jockies, who mark their horses after the age of being known, to make them appear only six or seven years old. They do it in this manner: They throw down the horse to have him more at command, and with a steel graver, like what is used for ivory, hollow the middle teeth a little, and the corner ones somewhat more; then fill the holes with a little rosin, pitch, sulphur, or some grains of wheat, which they burn in with a bit of hot wire, made in proportion to the hole. This operation they repeat from time to time, till they give the hole a lasting black, in imitation of nature; but in spite of all they can do, the hot iron makes a little yellowish circle round these holes, like what it would leave upon ivory: they have therefore another trick to prevent detection, which is to make the horse foam from time to time, after having rubbed his mouth, lips, and gums with salt, and the crumb of bread dried and powdered with salt. This foam hides the circle made by the iron.

Another thing they cannot do, is to counterfeit young tusks, it being out of their power to make those two crannies above-mentioned, which are given by nature: With files they may make them sharper or flatter, but then they take away the shining natural enamel, so that one may always know, by these tusks, horses that are past seven, till they come to twelve or thirteen. As the

the defects of the mouth may destroy a horse without any distemper, I shall here just describe the barbs, the lampas, giggs upon the lips, and gagg-teeth.

Barbs.] For the barbs, look under his tongue, and see if he has not two fleshy excressences on the under palate, like little bladders. It seems to be a meer trifle, but these however, will hinder a horse from drinking as usual; and if he does not drink freely, he eats the less, and languishes from day to day, perhaps, without any one's taking notice of it.

Lampas.] The lampas is known by opening the horse's mouth, and looking at his upper palate, to see if the flesh comes down below the inner teeth: This gives him pain in eating his oats, and even his hay, when it is too harsh; though he can very well manage bran, grass, or kind hay.

Giggs upon the lips.] When you have looked in the horse's mouth without finding either of the two disorders above, turn up his lips, both upper and under, and perhaps you may find several small elevations, like little white blisters, which make the inside of the lips uneven. This defect may be felt with the finger, and is what hinders horses from eating as usual; and this is what is called giggs upon the lips.

Gagg-teeth.] Gagg-teeth is a defect that rarely happens to young horses, and is to be discovered by putting the colt's foot into the mouth, and looking at the large grinders, which in this case appear unequal, and in eating catch hold of

the inside of the cheeks, causing great pain, and making them refuse their food.

His breast.] From his head look down to his breast, and see that it be broad, outswelling, and adorned with many features, for this shews strength: The little, or small breast, shews weakness, as the narrow one is apt to stumble.

The Anticor or Anticow.] Put your hand betwixt his fore legs, and feel if he has a swelling there from the sheath quite up between the fore legs, such a swelling is called the Anticor, or Anticow, and is mortal to horses if they are not soon relieved. It proceeds from different causes, viz. the remains of an old distemper which was never perfectly cured, or after which the horse was too soon put to labour, from too much heat, contracted in the stable, by being kept up a long time without airing, or from having lost too large a quantity of blood in what part soever the vein was opened. When you touch a swelling of this kind, the impressions of the fingers remain for some time, as if you had made them in a bit of puff paste, filling up again by degrees, as the paste would rise. This swelling contains bloody water, that insinuates between the flesh and the skin, and proves that all the blood in the veins is corrupted.

His Thighs and Legs.] From thence look down his elbow to his knee, and see that the fore thigh be rush grown, well horned within, sinewed fleshy, and outswelling, those being signs of strength, as the contrary are of weakness. His knees bear a proportion to each other,

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lean, sinewy, and close knit, they are good; but if one is bigger or rounder than the other, the horse has received mischief; if they are gross, he is gouty; and if he has scars, or the hair be broken, beware of a stumbling jade, and perpetual faller.

Splents.] From his knees look down his legs to his pasterns, and if you find them clean, lean, flat, sinewy, and the inward bought of his knee without seams, or hair broken, it shews a good shape and soundness; but if on the inside of the leg you find hard knots, they are splents, of which there are three sorts. The simple splent, which appears within the leg under the knee, remote from the great nerve and the joint of the knee, ought not to hinder a man from buying a good horse, for it gives him no pain, is only disagreeable to the sight, and goes away in time of itself. All the three sorts of splents are known by the same rule; for whenever you see a tumour upon the flat of the leg, whether within or without, if it be under the knee, and appears hard to the touch, it is a splent; and when it is situated as above described, it signifies nothing; but when it comes upon the joint of the knee, without any interval, it loses the name of splent, and may be called a fasee: it then, as one may easily conceive, makes the leg of a horse stiff, and hinders him from bending his knee; consequently it obliges him to stumble, and even fall, and after a violent exercise makes him lame. Rest alone cures the lameness, but not the fasee.

The third kind of splent, whether within or without,

without, is when you feel it between the nerve and the bone, and sometimes even at the end of the nerve; this is called a nervous splent, and is the worst of all the kinds; besides that, the horse is never here so firm footed, but that he limps at every little degree of labour. The French reject every horse that has a splent, very often without knowing how to distinguish them; and one that has only a simple splent, is as bad in their eyes as one that has the other sorts but a simple splent always goes away of itself by the time a horse is eight or nine years old.

Osselets.] There are also three kinds of osselets, which are of the same nature as splents, and some persons take them for the same thing; but there is this difference however between them, that splents come near the knees, and osselets near the fetlocks. Their seat is indifferently within or without the leg.

The first is the simple osselet, which does not grow near the joint of the fetlock or the nerve.

This need not hinder any man from buying a horse, because it puts him to no inconvenience, and very often goes away of itself without a remedy. The second is that which descends into the fetlock, and hinders the motion of that joint: this occasions a horse to stumble and fall, and with a very little work to become lame. The third has its seat between the bone and the nerve, and sometimes upon the nerve; it so much incommodes a horse, that he cannot stand firm, but limps on every little occasion.

Windgalls.] There are also three kinds of wind-

windgalls, which appear to the eye much like offeleets, but are not, however, just in the same places; nor do they feel like them, for offeleets are hard, but windgalls give way to the touch. Some horses are more liable to these than others, and that for several reasons. Some proceed from old worn-out fires, and others by being worked too young. A simple windgall is a little tumour, between the skin and the flesh, round the fetlocks: When it appears at a good distance from the large nerve, it does not lame the horse; and if he has but age on his side, that is, be under ten years old at most, he will be as useful as before, provided the work you put him to be not of the most laborious kind; however a horse is much better without, than with, even this sort of simple windgall, which consists of thin skins, full of red liquid, and soft to the touch. The nervous windgall answers the same description, only, as the simple ones come upon the fetlock, or a little above it, upon the leg bone, in the very place of offeleets; nervous ones come behind the fetlock, upon the great nerve, which makes them of worse consequence, for they never fail to lame a horse after much fatigue. These windgalls may happen upon any of the legs, but some of them are more dangerous than others, in proportion as they press the nerve, and are capable of laming the horse; and take notice, by the way, that windgalls are more troublesome in summer than in winter, especially in very hot weather, when the pores are all open. The third sort is the bloated windgall, and is of the worst sort when they

they come over the hind part of the fetlock, between the hore and the large nerve, and make the horse so lame, at every little thing he does, that he can scarce set his foot on the ground. They appear on both sides the leg, without as well as within; and when you touch them with your hand, or finger, they feel like a pig's or cow's bladder full of wind. If under his knees there are scabs on the inside, it is the speedy or swift cut, and in that case he will but ill endure galloping; if above the pasterns, on the inside, you find scabs, it shews interfering; but if the scabs be generally over his legs, it is either occasioned by foul keeping, or a spice of the mange.

Pastern.] Take care that the pastern joint be clear and well knit together, and that the pastern be strong, short, and upright; for if the first be big, or swelled, beware of finew strains; if the other be long, weak, or bending, the limbs will be hardly able to carry the body without tiring.

Hoofs.] The hoofs should be black, smooth, and tough, rather long than round, deep, hollow, and full-sounding; for white hoofs are tender, and carry a shoe ill, and a brittle hoof will carry no shoe at all: A flat hoof, that is pumiced, shews foundering; and a hoof that is empty, and hollow-sounding, shews a decayed inward part, by reason of some wound or dry founder. If the hair lye smooth and close about the crown of the hoof, and the flesh flat and even, then all is perfect; but should the hair be there rough, the skin scabbed, and the flesh rising, you may then be apprehensive of a ring bone, a crown scab or a quarter bone.

Circled

Circled Feet.] Circled feet are very easy to be known: They are when you see little excrescences round the hoof, which enclose the foot, and appear like so many small circles. Dealers who have such horses, never fail to rasp round the hoofs, in order to make them smooth; and to conceal the rasping when they are to shew them for sale, they black the hoofs all over; for without that one may easily perceive what has been done, and seeing the mark of the rasp, is a proof that the horse is subject to this accident. As to the cause it proceeds from the remains of an old distemper, or from having been foundered; and the disease being cured, without care being taken of the feet, whereupon the circulation of the blood not being regularly made, especially round the crown, between the hair and the horn, the part loses its nourishment, and contracts or enlarges itself in proportion as the horse is worked. If these circles were only on the surface, the jockies' method of rasping them down would then be good for nothing; but they form themselves also within the feet, as well as without, and consequently press on the sensible part, and make a horse limp with ever so little labour. One may justly compare a horse in this situation, to a man that has corns on his feet, and yet is obliged to walk a long way in shoes that are too tight and stubborn: A horse therefore is worth a great deal less upon this account.

Bow-legged.] After having well examined the feet, stand about three paces from his shoulders, and look carefully that he is not bow-legged,

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which proceeds from two different causes; first, from nature, when a horse has been got by a worn-out stallion; and secondly, from his having been worked too young; neither in the one case nor the other is the horse of any value, because he never can be surefooted; it is also a disagreeable sight if the knees point forwards, and his legs turn in under him, so that the knees come much further out than the feet; it is what is called a bow-legged horse, and such a one ought to be rejected for any service whatsoever, as he never can stand firm on his legs; and how handsome soever he may otherwise be, he should on no account be used for a stallion, because all his progeny will have the same deformity.

Head.] Then stand by his side, and take particular notice that his head be well set on; for if thick set be assured it will cause him to toss up his nose for want of wind, which causes a horse to carry his head disagreeably high, and occasions a ticklish mouth.

Neck.] His neck should be small at the setting on of his head, and long, growing deeper to the shoulders, with a high, strong, and thin mane, long, soft, and somewhat curling; those being beautiful characters; on the contrary, a head ill set on is a great deformity.

Pole-evil.] To have a large bigness or swelling in the nape of the neck, shews the pole-evil. To have a short thick neck, like a bull, to have it falling in the withers, to have a low, weak, thick, or falling crest, shews want of strength and mettle.

The Mane.] Much hair on the mane shews dulness, as too thin a mane shews fury; and to have none, or shed, shews the worm in it, the itch, or rancidness.

The Shoulders.] In shewing a horse, a dealer or jockey will generally place him with his fore feet on a higher ground than his hind ones, in order that the shoulder may appear further in his back, and make him higher in sight than he really is; but be sure to cause him to be led on level ground, and see that his shoulders lie well into his back; for an upright shouldered horse carries his weight too forward, which is disagreeable and unsafe to the rider. Have his fore legs stand even, and you will then have it in your power to judge of his shoulders. If you do not observe this, the dealer will contrive that his near leg stands before the other, as the shoulders in that position, appear to lay further in the back. If his knees stand nearly close, and his toes quite in a line, not turning in, nor yet turning out, be assured he will not cure. If he takes his legs up a moderate height, and neither clambers, nor yet goes too near the ground, he will most likely answer your purpose.

Back, Body, &c.] Observe that the chine of his back be broad, even, and straight, his ribs well compassed, and bending outward, his fillers upright, strong, short, and above an handful between his last rib and his huckle bone; his belly should be well let down, yet hidden within his ribs, and his stones close thrust up to his body, those being marks of health and goodness. Be

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careful in observing that he has no swelling in his testicles, a disorder that usually proceeds either from some strain in working, or from the horse's having continued too long in the stable, or from his putting one leg over any bar, and being checked by the halter, or, in a word from any other accident that confines a horse, makes him kick or fling, and bruise his cuds, and there is no other way of knowing this distemper, but by some outward swelling upon the part.

The coming down of the testicles proceeds from the same causes, with this difference only, that it is a long time of discovering itself; whereas the other may come in one night. If his chine be narrow, he will never carry a saddle well; and to have it bending or saddle-backed, shews weakness. If his ribs be flat, there is but small liberty for wind. Should his fillets hang low, or weak, he will never climb a hill, or carry a burden well. A belly that his clung up, or gaunt, and stones hanging down loose, are signs of sickness, tenderness, foundering in the body, and unaptness for labour. His buttocks should be round, plump, full, and in an even level with his body: The narrow, pin buttock, the hog or swine rump, and the falling and down let buttock, shews an injury in nature. The horse that is deep in his girthing place, is generally of great strength. His hinder thighs, or gaskins, should be well let down, even to the middle joint, thick, brawny, full and swelling, this being a great sign of strength and goodness; lank and slender thighs shews disability and weakness. From the thigh
bone

bone to the hock it should be pretty long, but short from the hock to the pastern. Observe the middle joint behind, and if it be nothing but skin and bone, veins and sinews, rather, a little bending than too straight, it is perfect as it should be; on the contrary, should it have chaps or sores on the inward bough, or bending, it is a fallender.

Spavins.] Should the joint be generally swelled all over, he must have had a blow or bruise; if in any particular part, as in the pot, or hollow part, or on the inside, the vein full and proud, and the swelling soft, it is a blood spavin. You cannot therefore take too much care in examining the houghs of delicate horses, for let the swelling appear ever so small upon the flat of the lower part of the hough, within side, though the horse may not limp, you ought to be apprehensive that in time and with but little labour, the spavin will increase on him.

The fat spavin comes almost in the same place as the other, but is larger.

A third kind is the ox spavin, and this is thought the worst of the three. If the swelling be hard, it is a bone spavin; you should examine a horse thoroughly therefore before you buy him; and, in particular, see if all the joints of his legs move with equal freedom. Most horses that have the bone spavin are very apt to start when you go to take up their legs, and will hardly let you touch them with your hand; examine them well therefore with your eye, and see if, between the fetlock and the crown, the leg descends even and smooth; for if you see any protuberance between

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between the flesh and the skin, that looks like a sort of knot, or kernel, you have found the defect.

A Curb.] If you observe the swelling to be exactly before the knuckle, it is a curb; which is an accident that may happen in different manners; such as a strain in working, slipping his foot in a hole, or in marshy ground, &c. out of which he pulls it with pain, and by that means wrenches his hough, without dislocating any thing, and yet, without speedy care, he may be lamed.

A Rat's Tail.] There is also a defect which is more common in the hind than the fore legs, though the latter are not quite exempt from it, and it is called the Rat's Tail, and is thus known: When you see, from the hind part of the fetlock, up along the nerves, a kind of line or channel that separates the hair to both sides, this is a rat's tail; and in summer there appears a kind of small dry scab along this channel; and in winter there issues out a humidity, like the water from the legs. A horse may work notwithstanding this disorder, for it seldom lames him; it sometimes occasions a stiffness in the legs, and makes them trot like foxes, without bending their joints. The hind legs should be lean, clean, flat, and sinewy; for if fat, they will not bear labour; if swelled, the grease is molten into them; if scabbed above the pasterns, it is the scratches; and if he hath chops under his pasterns, he hath what is generally called the Rains. If he has a good bartock, his tail cannot stand ill, but will be broad, high, flat, and couched a little inward.

A Walk and Trot in Hand.] Having with care examined the horse, let him be run in hand a gentle trot; by this you will soon perceive if he is lame or not. Make the man lead him by the end of the bridle, as in this case you cannot be deceived by the man's being too near him. The far fore leg, and near hind leg, or the near fore leg, and far hind leg, should move and go forward at one and the same time; and in this motion, the nearer the horse taketh his limbs from the ground, the opener, the evenner, and the shorter is his pace.

Forging.] If he takes up his feet slovenly, it shews stumbling or lameness; to tread narrow, or cross, shews interfering, or failing; to step uneven, shews weariness; and if he treads long, you may be apprehensive he forges; by which I mean, that when he walks, or trots, he strikes the toes of his hind feet against the corners of his shoes before, which occasions a clattering noise as you ride; and this proceeds generally from the weakness of his fore legs, he not having strength in them to raise them up sufficiently quick to make way for the hind ones. A horse of this kind is not near so serviceable as the horse exempt from it; and the dealers, to get rid of him, will make abundance of pretences: If he has been just shod, they will say the farrier has put him on too long shoes; if his shoes are old, they will tell you he has just come off a long journey, and is much fatigued: you must not therefore be over credulous to any thing a jockey or dealer affirms; for what they say in this manner, is too often

often with intent to deceive: and it is very certain, that a horse who forges can never be sure-footed, any more than one who has tottering and bow-legs.

Walk and Trot mounted.] On his being mounted, see him walk. Observe his mouth, that he pulls fair, not too high, nor bearing down; then stand behind him, and see if he goes narrower before than behind, as every horse that goes well on his legs goes in that manner. Take notice that he brushes not by going too close; a certain sign of his cutting, and tiring in travelling. Have nothing to do with that horse who throws his legs confusedly about, and crosses them before: This you may observe by standing exactly before or behind him, as he is going along. In his trot he should point his fore legs well, without clambering, nor yet as if he were afraid; and that he throws well in his hind legs, which will enable him to support his trot, and shoot his fore parts forwards.

A Canter or Gallop.] In his canter, observe he does not fret, but goes cool in this pace; and in his gallop, he should take his feet nimbly from the ground, and not raise them too high; but that he stretcheth out his fore legs, and followes nimbly with his hind ones; and that he cutteth not under his knee, (which is called the swift or speedy cut) that he crosses not, nor claps one foot on another; and ever leadeth with his far fore foot, and not with the near one. If he gallops round, and raises his fore feet, he may be said to gallop strongly, but not swiftly; and if he

he labour his feet confusedly, and seems to gallop painfully, it shews some hidden lameness; for in all his paces, you should particularly observe that his limbs are free, without the least stiffness.

Tottering Legs.] Now that he has been well exercised in those different paces, it is your time to examine for an infirmity not easily discovered, and that is what I call Tottering Legs: You cannot perceive it till after a horse has galloped for some time; and then, by letting him rest a little, you will see his legs tremble under him, which is the disorder I mean: How handsome soever the legs of such a horse may be, he never can stand well on them; you are therefore not to mind what the jockey says when he talks of the beauty of the limbs; for if you oblige him to gallop the horse, or fatigue him pretty much, (which is commonly done in order to try the creature's bottom) you will in all likelihood discover this defect, unless you suffer the groom to gallop him to the stable door, and put him up in a moment; which he will certainly endeavour to do, if he is conscious of it, while the master has another horse ready to shew you, in order to take off your attention from what he is afraid you should see.

Thus having, to the best of my judgement, gone through every requisite observation relative to the purchase of a horse, studiously avoiding its being drawn into an unnecessary length, yet at the same time being as careful to avoid an affected brevity, the gentlemen, to whom many of my observations are familiar, will please to observe,

D

that

that I have endeavoured, as much as possible, to write for the information of the person entirely unacquainted with the qualifications which form a complete horse; in the purchase of which, the person should particularly consider the end for which he buys, whether for running, hunting, travelling, draught, or burden: and it is therefore almost unnecessary to remind him, that the biggest and strongest are fittest for strong occasions, burdens, draught, or double carriage; as the middle size is for hunting, pleasure, general employments, and the least for summer hackney, The last thing I shall take the freedom to observe to my reader is, that a very small portion of this treatise has been taken from a late publication, deficient in many respects, though at the same time containing some trite observations; and that the bulk of it has been compiled from my own experience, assisted by various Authors on the subject, of which Monsieur Saunier is the principal. All I have therefore to observe is, that it was compiled at the request of the publishers, as a suitable companion to a book of the same size, intitled, The Gentleman's Pocket Farriery; shewing how to use a horse on a journey; and what remedies are proper for common accidents that may befall him on the road: which having been universally approved, and met with a very extensive sale, they are hopeful, that a well drawn up assistant towards the purchase of a horse, describing the disorders, &c. to which he is liable, might stand fair to be received with marks of the same public approbation.

OBSER-

- 1 Bone Spavin
- 2 Ring Bones
- 3 Knubs and Warts
- 4 To know the true bastard Strangles
- 5 To make him carry his ears well
- 6 Boreing the Shoulder with arttural Caut
- 7 Operation for lameness in the round bone
- 8 A Quitter bone



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OBSERVATIONS AND RECEIPTS

FOR THE

Cure of most Common Distempers

INCIDENT TO

H O R S E S.

WHEN you chuse to have a foal for beauty, let your horse and mare be of a coal black, a bright bay, a good grey, or a dun, which are very agreeable colours; and let your horse and mare be sound, and of a known good breed, with their marks much alike: the horse should be 15, and the mare 14 hands and an half high, nor should they be more than six years old when they are brought together; and by observing these directions, you need not fear having good, strong, and sound colts.

If you have more mares than one with foal at a time, mind to keep them asunder when they have foaled, for a whole year, lest either of the colts going to the other's dam should get a kick,

as often happens, that may make him a cripple ever after; when they are a year old you may wean them, because they may then eat oats, bran and good short hay; and you may likewise at that time put them together, provided you have none that are a year older than they to run with them; for as they are apt to kick and lame each other, so, if they are of an age, they will be the better able to bear one another's blows; and now is the time your servants should be careful not to learn them any bad tricks, by letting them bite, or kick at them; for if they do, they will find it a hard matter to break them off it. When they are come to about four or five years old, you may let them eat beans, and pease; and if you intend to bring them to business, put them into the stable for two or three days, tie them up with a halter to acquaint them with the other horses, letting your servant make much of them: then put on each of them a bridle, and let them stand two or three days longer with the bit in their mouths, that you may the better manage them when you come to back them. Next take one of them out of the stable, and lead him about in your hand with a saddle on his back, then mount him; but be sure to have good strong bridles, girths, and stirrups; and take care you are not thrown; for if he gets the upper hand of you, then you will find it a hard matter to break him: Learn him to walk on boldly, for he will be apt to stop and startle at any thing that presents itself to his view: When you have learned him to walk well, and observe that he is

not

not frightened at every little thing he sees, then you may venture to trot and gallop him; and by this means you may soon bring him to all his paces. Your horse being now fit for service, and perfectly sound, he will fetch you a good price if you intend to dispose of him.

We shall now give you some directions to prevent your being imposed on in the purchase of a horse: The first of which is, never to bargain for one before you ride him, because he may start and stumble, though handsome to look upon; but first examine strictly his teeth, eyes, legs, and wind; and then to know his age, raise his upper lip with your finger and thumb; and if his teeth shut close, he is young; but if they point forward, and the upper and the under edges don't meet even, he is old; and the longer his teeth are, (the gums being dry and shrunk from them, looking yellow and rusty) the older he is.

If his eyes are lively and clear, and you can see to the bottom, and the image of your face is reflected from thence, and not from the surface of the eye, they are good; but if muddy, cloudy, or coal back, they are bad.

If his knees are not broke, nor stand bending and trembling forward, (which is called knuckling) his legs may be good; but if he steps short, and digs his toes in the ground, beware of a founder, or at least a contracted back sinew.

If his flanks beat even and slow, his wind may be good; but if they heave double and irregular, or (while he stands in the stable) blows at the nostrils, as if he had just been galloping, they are signs of a broken wind. A

A horse with thick shoulders and a broad chest laden with flesh, hanging too forward and heavily projecting over his knees and feet, is fitter for a collar than a saddle.

A horse with thin shoulders and a flat chest, whose fore feet stand boldly forward and even, his neck rising semicircular from the points of those thin shoulders to his head, may justly be said to have a light fore hand, and is fitter for a saddle than a collar.

Next enquire if he bites, kicks, stops, or starts. A horse may be found, though guilty of all four, which a man can hardly discover by barely looking on him; so we refer you to the keeper.

When you are buying, 'tis common for the owner to say in praise of his horse, that he hath neither splent, spavin, nor windgall.

That you may not be imposed on, those three are thus described:

The splent is a fixed callous excrescence, or hard knob growing upon the flat of the inside or outside (and sometimes both) of the shank bone, a little under, and not far from the knee, and may be seen and felt.

The spavin is of the same nature, and appears in the like manner on the shank bone behind, and not far below the hough.

The windgalls are several little swellings just above the fetlock joints of all the four legs: They seem (in feeling) to be full of wind or jelly, but they never lame a horse; the splent and spavin always do; and for their cure, look among the receipts at the end of this Treatise on Horses.

To

To discover if a horse stumbles or starts, when you mount him neither let him feel your spurs, nor see your whip; keep yourself in a profound calm; and when you are seated, go gently off with a loose rein, which will make him careless; and if he is a stumbler, he will discover himself in a very little way.

The best horse may stumble, but if he springs out when he stumbles, as if he feared your whip and spur, you may justly suspect him to be an old offender: A man should never strike a horse for stumbling or starting: We confess the provocation is great, but the fright of correction makes him worse.

Whenever you intend to travel or hunt, let your horse's feet be examined some convenient time before you set out, to see that his shoes are all fast, and sit easy on his feet; for on that depends the pleasure and safety of your journey.

If he cuts either before or behind, look that his shoes stand not out with an edge beyond the hoof, and feel that the clinches lie close; but if his cutting proceeds from interfering, (that is crossing his legs in his trot) then it is a natural infirmity, and can only be a little helped by care.

If (as he stands in the stable) you observe him to point one foot forwarder than the other, either before or behind, seeming to bear no weight on it, you may reasonably conclude he is not easy: If the shoe is the cause, the farrier can remove it presently; but if the foot is hot, hurt by some unknown accident, then make the following poultice:

Take

Take any sort of greens, such as lettice, cabbage, mallow leaves, turnip tops, or turnips themselves, the best of all; boil them tender, squeeze the water out, chop them in a wooden bowl, with two or three ounces of hog's lard or butter.

Put this poultice into a cloth, and tie his foot in it as hot as you can, this will soften his hoof, and in the farrier's paring, he will discover if he is pricked or bruised; if he is only bruised, one more poultice will cure him; but if he is wounded to the quick, open the hole with your penknife, and put to it the following horse ointment; which being kept on with dry tow, will suck out the gravel; and his foot being put as before in a hot poultice and repeated morning and evening, he will be well in two or three nights.

The Horse Ointment.

Into a clean pipkin that holds about a quart, put the bigness of a pullet's egg of yellow rosin; when it is melted over a midling fire, add the same quantity of bees wax; when that is melted, put in half a pound of hog's lard; when it is dissolved, put in two ounces of honey; when that is dissolved, put in half a pound of common turpentine; keep it gently boiling, stirring it with a stick all the time; when the turpentine is dissolved, put in two ounces of verdigrease finely powdered; but before you put in the verdigrease, you must take off the pipkin, else it will rise
into

into the fire in a moment; set it on again, and give it two or three wambles and strain it through a coarse sieve into a clean vessel for use, and throw the dregs away.

This ointment is very good for a wound or bruise in the flesh or hoof, broken knees, gaul'd backs, bites, crack'd heels, mallanders, or when you geld a horse, to keep the flies away.

The aforesaid poultice and ointment will likewise cure a horse that is lame in his heel or hoof, occasioned by an over-reach, or tread of another horse, be it never so deep, and though gravel be in it; for it will suck it out, fill it again with sound flesh, and make the hoof grow over it much sooner than any other method or medicine whatsoever.

All cuts, treads, and bruises are cured by the aforesaid poultice, not only safest and soonest, but without leaving any mark.

If a horse's legs and heels swell and crack, and become stiff and sore, wash them with hot water and soap, then prepare the foregoing poultice, and tie it on hot, letting it stay on all night.—Feed him as usual, and offer him warm water. About three or four hours after he is put up for all night, and fed, give him the following ball:

Half an ounce of Æthiops mineral. Ditto of balsam of sulphur terib. Ditto of diapente, or powdered anniseeds, mixed and made into a ball with honey or treacle, and a pint of warm ale

ale after it; and, in the morning, give him warm water in the stable on account of the ball. A day or two after take a pint of blood from his neck.

The poultice being continued every night, and the ball three times, that is every other night, it will cure a horse, if he is young, and the distemper new; but if he is old, and hath had it a long time on him, it will require further repetition: take great care not to let him sweat during this operation, for it will retard the cure.

If you can get no sort of poulticing, then melt hog's lard, butter, or kitchen-grease, in a saucepan; and, with a rabbit's foot or a rag, grease his heels with it very hot.

The mallander is a crack in the bend of the knee, and the fellander is a crack in the bend of the hough; and are cured by the same method, medicine, greasing and poulticing, which are used for swelled and cracked heels.

If the saddle bruises his back, and makes it swell, a greasy dish-clout laid on hot, and a rag over it bound on for a while, and repeated once or twice will sink it; then wash it with a little water and salt, and it will cure it.

If a horse is off his stomach, and the keeper is afraid of a surfeit, which is often attended with the grease, the farcy, or both, the symptoms are the staring of the coat, and hide bound.

The staring of the coat will soon appear: To prevent which, boil for a cordial.

Half a pound of anniseeds in a quart of ale,
pour

pour it upon half a pound of honey in a bowl, brew it about till it is almost as cold as blood, then give it with a horn, feeds and all. Feed as usual, but keep him warm cloathed; give him warm water that night and next morning. A mash will do well that night; and, lest the cordial should not have force enough to carry off the surfeit, give him after all, and just before bedtime, one of the balls, as directed above.

To prevent stiffness, supple and wash his legs with greasy dishwash, or hot water and soap, and do not take him out of the stable that night; grease his hoofs, and stop his feet with the following ball:

Two or three handfuls of bran, put into a saucepan, with as much grease of any kind as will moisten it; make it hot, and put a ball of it into each fore foot. Cover each with a little tow or straw, and put two splints over that to keep it in all night. But these balls are not necessary in the winter, nor when the roads are full of water.

This ball will likewise prevent a horse from catching cold, or foundering, after he has been rid hard upon a dry road in hot weather.

If you wrench a horse's shoulder, or what we commonly call a shoulder-slip,

Mix two ounces of oil of spike with one ounce of oil of swallows, and with your hands rub a little of it all over his shoulder; then bleed him in the plait vein, and let him rest two days, that will cure a slight strain.

If he continues lame, put a round rowel to

draw away the humours, about two inches below the point of his shoulder; in doing which, take care to keep off the plait vein; for if you wound that, it is an hundred to one but it strikes into his body and mortifies; several have died that way. After you have rowelled him, you must let him rest two days at least, till the rowel digests and runs; and then, though lame, you may walk him a little, but it must be very slow; and he will soon grow well. You must remember to turn the rowel every morning after it runs. This experiment has often been tried with good success.

If a horse is strained in the stifle, (a little bone upon the thigh bone, above the inside bend of the hough) the *Turnip Poultice*, mentioned in page 32, will infallibly cure it; but, by its situation, you will find a difficulty to keep it on, yet it may be done with a few yards of list.

If it is not well, or much amended, in three or four days, examine his hip, perhaps he may be hipshot, but that must be cured by a rowel, because you cannot fasten a poultice on that part. First, rub his hip with the two oils above-mentioned for a shoulder-slip: Then put a round rowel about three or four inches below the large cavity which receives the head of the thigh bone: When it begins to digest, turn the rowel every morning. After a week or ten days you may take it out, and keep the lips of the wound moist with hog's lard, that it may heal the smoother.

*An excellent Remedy to cure a Clap in the
Back Sinews.*

Take a spoonful or two of hog's lard, or rather goose grease, melt it in a sauce pan, and rub it into the back sinew very hot, from the bend of the knee to the fetlock; make, as you are desired in page 32, a turnip poultice, and tie it on hot, from the fetlock to above the knee, and let it stay on all night: Thus, first tie the cloth about the fetlock, then put it in the poultice, and raise the cloth and poultice together, till you get it above the bend of the knee, twilting the list or string round his leg as you rise, and fasten it above the bend of the knee; take it off in the morning, and put on a fresh one; at night do the same. Two or three of these poultices will cure a new strain, five or six an old one. If he has been lame a long time, the sinew will be contracted; this poultice will relax it.

The same poultice will also cure the fetlock of a horse that is cast in his halter, by repeating it till he is well.

*A Caution to prevent the taking a Clap in the Back
Sinews for a Shoulder-slip, which very often
happens.*

If it is in the shoulder, he will draw his toe on the ground as he walks; if in the back sinew, he will lift it off and step short, though downright lame. There does not happen above one shoulder slip to fifty back sinew strains.

Never

Never take a horse out of a warm stable to ride him into a horsepond at an unseasonable hour, either too early or too late, for by that means he often catches a great cold.

Sometimes, upon a violent cold, a large swelling as big as one's arm, from the elbow to the sheath on both sides his belly, will rise; when it so happens, take, if you can get it, for the swellings may hinder, half a pint of blood, or thereabouts, from the spur vein on each side; then cloath him warmer than usual, and give him the anniseed cordial, feeds and all, as directed in page 34. Repeat it for a day or two, taking such care of him as belongs to a horse that has just caught cold.

If the swelling continues, and corruption gathers in it, you must let it out with a steam; he will grow well as his cold goes off.

If after a day or two you perceive a running at his eyes, and a little gleeing at his nostrils, you must expect to hear him cough. In that case, take a pint of blood from his neck in a morning, and at noon give an additional feed to make amends for the loss of blood. At night give him a mash over and above his usual allowance. The next night give him the anniseed cordial as before.

If his cough continues three days, you must take another pint of blood from his neck; and to keep it off his lungs, give him just before you go to bed,

Liquorish powder, an ounce; sweet oil, a spoonful; æthiops mineral, an ounce; balsam
of

of sulphur, half an ounce ; made into a ball with a little honey.

Cloath and keep him warm ; repeat the ball next night, which will be sufficient to cure any new gotten cold or surfeit.

Feel between his jaws, and if his kernels are swelled, three or four turnip poultices, as mentioned in page 32, will dissolve them, but continue the anniseed cordial till he is well.

When a horse has got cold, it sometimes falls into his eyes, which you will know by a running or thick glare upon them ; put your hand to his nostrils, and if you find his breath hotter than usual, it will then be necessary to take a little blood from his neck ; that is, a pint, or a quart at most, unless it be very thick and very hot. It is safer to take a gallon at five or six bleedings, than two quarts at once ; for it robs him of too much animal spirits.

Always bleed a horse in a pint or quart pot ; for when you bleed at random on the ground, you never can know what quantity you take, nor what quality his blood is of. From such violent methods, used with ignorance, proceeds the death of a great number of horses.

A pint of blood for the first time is enough, and you may repeat that as you see occasion ; but you cannot easily restore the blood and spirits you may be too lavish of.

But to return to the eyes. After you have taken a pint of blood from him, get a quartern loaf hot out of the oven, cut away the crust, and put the soft inside into a linen bag large enough

enough to cover his forehead and temples; press it flat, and bind it on by way of poultice, as hot as may be without scalding; at the same time fasten something of a cloth about his neck to keep his throat warm. Let the poultice stay on till it is almost cold, and repeat it once or twice, then prepare the following eye-water:

Into half a pint of rose or spring water, put one dram of tutty finely prepared; one dram of white sugar candy powdered; and half a dram of sugar of lead.

With a feather put a drop into each eye, mornings and evenings.

Never blow powders into the eyes, always use liquids.

The next day, if needful, repeat the poultice; and for want of a hot loaf at any time, make a poultice of bread boiled in milk, continuing the eye water every day.

You may use the turnip poultice, mentioned in page 32; but you must not put grease into it.

If a film grows over the eye, put a scruple of white vitriol, and a scruple of roch-allum, both finely powdered, into half a quartern of spring water, and with a feather put a drop into each eye, mornings and evenings, and it will eat it clean off in three days, or thereabouts.

It is observed, some horses carry a good belly for a long time; others part with their food before it is well digested, which makes them so thin and lank, that they are ready to slip through their girths; they are called washy. Such horses must be chiefly fed with dry meat; that is oats and
beans

beans, and but seldom with bran. They also will eat as much, or rather more than other horses, and you should feed them oftener; for being too soon empty, they require it.

If you do not gallop a horse off his wind, we will venture to say, it is not a journey that hurts him, but your neglect of him when you dismount; and therefore consider he is tied up, and can have nothing but what is brought to him; for he cannot help himself.

When you are upon a journey, always see your horse fed as soon as you can at night, that he may go to rest, and he will be the fresher for it in the morning; and always give two or three feeds instead of a large one; for too much at once will cloy him.

If at any time you perceive your horse faint, you may give him a pint of warm ale with a quartern of brandy, rum, or geneva in it; or an ounce of diapente in it. Diapente will comfort his bowels, drive out cold and wind, and cause him to carry his food the longer.

If a horse is taken with the gripes, (which he will discover to you by often looking towards his flanks) and cannot keep upon his legs, but rolls and beats himself about, as undoubtedly he is, in very great misery, do not bleed him unless his breath is very hot, but cloath him warm immediately, and with a horn give him half a pint of brandy, and as much sweet oil, mixed; then trot him about till he is a little warm, and it will certainly cure some horses. If it does not cure yours, boil an ounce of beaten pepper in a quart

of milk, and put half a pound of butter, and two or three ounces of salt, into a bowl or bason, and brew them together, give it rather warmer than usual; it will purge him in about half an hour, and perhaps remove the fit. If it does not, omit half the pepper, and give the same in quality and quantity by way of clyster, adding as it cools, the yolks of four eggs. If he is very bad, and neither will do, boil a pound of anniseeds in two quarts of ale, brew it upon a pound of honey; when it is almost cool enough, put in two ounces of diascordium, and give it with a horn at three doses, allowing about half an hour between each dose: If his fit abates, give him time to recover; but if all this does not give him ease, and you have a suspicion of worms or botts bred in his gut, which indeed may be the cause; for they sometimes fasten in the passage from the stomach unto the great gut, stop it and so torment him till he dies; then give him two ounces of æthiops mineral made into a ball, with an ounce of the powder of anniseeds and a spoonful of honey, and it will cure him: *But you must not give this to a mare with foal.*

Never let a horse stand too long without exercise; it fills his belly too full of meat, and his veins too full of blood, and from hence often proceeds the staggers.

A Cure for the Staggers.

If a horse be strong, take first a pint of blood from the neck; and when you have done that, open one of the thigh veins, and from thence
take

take a quart; if the disease be simple, this will cure him; but keep him afterwards to a moderate cleansing diet, and by degrees harden him with proper exercise; if he is weak, bleed him less in proportion. After which, we recommend the following clyster from Monsi, *Solleyel*.

Boil two ounces of the *soria* of the liver of antimony made into a fine powder, in five pints of beer; after five or six wambles remove it from the fire, adding a quarter of a pound of butter or hog's lard, and give it him two or three times, if he will bear it, and it will cure him: Rub him well down, and give him warm water during this course of physick.

Thin skinned horses that have been well kept and cloathed, should never be turned to grass above three months in the year, *viz.* from the beginning of *June* to the end of *August*; but thick skinned horses have strong coats, which keep out the weather; and if well fed, will lie abroad all the year: For walking about to feed prevents stiffness in their limbs; and treading in the grass keeps their hoofs moist and cool: But they should have a hovel to come to at night, or when it snows or rains.

Never purge a horse just taken from grass, for it dissolves or loosens some tender fat or humours, which fall into his legs or heels, so that he rarely stands dry all the winter after. But after six days you may bleed him under a quart, and at night give him the anniseed cordial, mentioned in page 34, which is a gentle opener.

If you needs must purge a horse, for which we

would have a good reason given, let him not touch cold water within or without till the day after it has done working, but give him whatever warm water he will drink. And let the following be the purge:

Aloes one ounce; jallop two or three drams; oil of cloves ten drams; made into a ball with honey.

A purge may work the first day, but commonly not till the second. We have known them lie three days in a horse, and work well off at last.

Never stir him out of the stable till the purge has done working, for there is no need of exercise during the operation, because every purge will carry itself off, if you keep him warm, and supply him with warm mashes, and as much warm water as he will drink, and as often.

When a purge works too long, or too strong upon him, which will weaken him too much, give an ounce of *Venice* treacle in a pint of warm ale, and repeat it, if needful, to blunt the force of the aloes.

If a horse, who once looked fat and sleek, is brought to you with a staring coat, and a hollow flank, open his mouth, look on the roof, and if the gums next his fore-teeth are swelled higher than his teeth, it will hinder his feeding, and make him fall off his flesh. Let a Smith burn it down with a hot iron; that is a complete cure for the lampars.

If that is not the cause, you should never cease enquiring till you have found it out, for a horse cannot speak.

From

From galloping a horse too hard when he is full of water often proceeds a broken wind.

The following Remedy taken from Gibson, we have often given with great success to a broken winded Horse.

Mix linseed and fenugreek frequently in his corn, and sometimes those of fennel, caraways, and anise; and boil in his water three or four handfulls of barley, with a little liquorice or honey dissolved in in; but you must not often use the liquorice. Exercise him more or less every day, but let it be moderately, and when the weather is clear.

If he be at any time seized with an oppression, and a more then ordinary difficulty of breathing, he should have a vein opened in his flank, or on the inside of the thigh, from whence may be taken a small quantity of blood; but this must be done only when there is an absolute necessity for it; or the following balls have been given and continued with great success.

Take of myrrh and gum benzoin, of each four ounces; gum arabic, the roots of orice, round birthwort, and the shavings of harts-horn or ivory, of each two ounces; galangal and zedoary, of each an ounce; fennel seeds, cummin seeds, and fenugreek, of each an ounce and half: Let these be bet into a fine powder, and made up into a stiff paste, with honey or syrup of coltsfoot; then work into the whole an ounce of the common balsam of sulphur, and let them be made into balls the bigness of a large walnut, whereof

whereof one is to be given every morning and afternoon, an hour before watering time.

The true and only use of rowels is to dissolve hard swellings, discharge and cool wounds, and bruises, to draw off and digest humours that lodge only between the flesh and the skin; and therefore will never cure the grease or farcy; of which we shall here give a description.

Heats and colds thicken the blood; and the veins being full, it either turns to the grease, and vents at the heels or frush, or, for want of circulation, stagnates and corrupts in the veins; so breaks through vein, skin, and all, into buds of the farcy.

Most people imagine that the farcy lies between the flesh and the skin; but in our opinion they are very much mistaken; for before the buds break out, the veins cord; which is a strong presumption that the distemper hath its origin in the blood, because there is its first appearance. Take a pint of blood from any horse whose veins are corded any where about him, and it will shew its corruption as soon as it is cold. Bleeding checks the distemper, whereas if you do not bleed, it would break out in every part about him, from his ears to the soles of his feet, even the corners of his eyes, his yard, and the very inside of his hoofs, or wherever there are any blood vessels. These demonstrations oblige us to believe the distemper does not lie in the skin, but in the veins.

For the cure of a farcy, look among the receipts at the end of this treatise on horses.

The

The glanders proceed from several repeated colds, such as are catched at winter-grass; and by lying long upon the lungs and glands, corrupt the blood, and produce that unhappy consequence of running at the nostrils; for the cure of which, look among the receipts at the end of this treatise on horses.

The mourning of the chine is downright poverty of flesh and blood, which the severity of the distempers (*i. e.* colds) bring on, and may be compared to a lean man in a consumption: But there is no such thing as the running of the spinal marrow at the nostrils, as many affirm; for the vessel that contains the spinal marrow, is composed of the same coats that inclose the brain, and is continued from the brain, without disjunction, through the neck and chine bones, till it ends in the dock; so that there is not the least communication between the spinal marrow and the nostrils. It is much the same as in human bodies.

If you would know when a horse is in a fever, there is a pulse a little above the knee, in the inside of his leg, which may be felt in thin-skinned horses: but the best and surest way is to put your hand to his nostrils, and discover it by the heat of his breath. There is a time in some fevers when it is dangerous to bleed or purge; then clysters are of excellent use, we must say absolutely necessary; but not one in a thousand will give themselves the trouble to relieve the poor sick creature in that way, for two reasons: 1st, Few people know when a horse is in a fever;

2^{dly},

2dly, They seldom are provided with so material an instrument as a clyster-pipe. Therefore, for the sake of the creature, and those that love him, the following clyster in a fever is as good as any, and as little trouble; but first get a pipe eight or ten inches long, with a bore large enough to receive the end of your finger, and a rim at one end of the pipe, that what you tie on may not slip off: Then boil a spoonful of oatmeal in two quarts of water, together with two ounces of fenna, add half a pound of brown sugar, half a pint of sweet oil, and a handful of salt. Get a bladder that will contain the above said quantity, and tie its neck to the pipe. Pour the clyster, with a funnel through the pipe into the bladder, and give it blood-warm, setting the horse's hinder parts highest. Keep him quite in the stable till he voids it, the longer it stays with him the better.

If in bleeding you miss the vein, do not strike your fleam a second time in the same place, because it some times makes the neck swell, and proves troublesome to cure: But the extravasated blood infallibly makes the neck swell, and the jugular vein rot quite away from the orifice to the jaw bone and downwards almost to the shoulder, which may prove the loss of a horse; therefore you should take care in pining, that you leave not a drop of blood between the flesh and the skin. The *Turnip poultice*, as mentioned in page 32, makes the best cure; but if the neck should happen to be extremely bad, to help the poultice, you must put a small hair rowel two or three inches

inches below the hard swelling, and continue a repetition of the poultice, mornings and evenings, till it is well; and this is all that is in the great wonder of a swelled neck, that often costs so many horses a long fit of illness.

If you dock a horse, never put under his tail the knife or instrument which is to cut it off, because you must then strike the tail, which will bruise it; then it mortifies, and that is the reason so many horses die with dockings; but lay his tail next the block, and at one blow drive the knife through a joint, if possible, and let one stand ready with a hot iron to sear the end of the dock and stop bleeding.

There are innumerable misfortunes which no man can cure, or human foresight guard against.

We have here mentioned most of the common accidents that happen to a horse, and have taken care, that, under some of the heads we have treated of, you may find a great deal of help, by the analogy they have to one another.

We have put no drug or composition in here but what is very cheap, and may be had almost in every country town and village; so we hope we have left no difficulty on any body; and we likewise hope, that what we have here set down on the Cure of Horses, will be very acceptable and useful to all those who may have occasion for them; which done, we shall add a few more approved Receipts communicated by this Society, some of which we have referred to, and so end this Treatise for the Cure of Horses.



RECEIPTS FOR THE

R E C E I P T S.

To cure the Grease, Surfeits, Loss of Appetite, Cough, Shortness of Breath; to purify the Blood, and to fatten tired and wasted Horses.

Give the horse two ounces of liver of antimony, which is *crocus metallorum* unwashed, in oats and bran moistened, every morning for twenty days together.

To cure the Mange.

Anoint the back-bone with mercurial ointment every other day three times, and give the horse liver of antimony.

For a Horse that is Costive.

Give him a clyster of broth, with four ounces of soap, and a handful of salt dissolved in it.

To cure a Scouring.

Take milk-water, strong cinnamon water, of each half a pint; Venice treacle, diascordium, of each one ounce; red coral prepared, half an ounce; mix and give it the horse.

To cure a Pestilential Fever.

Take milk-water, plague-water, of each half a pint; Venice treacle, diascordium, of each an ounce; diaphoretick antimony, half an ounce; snake-root powdered, two drams; mix and give it the horse.

Water for inflamed Eyes.

Take half a pint of spring water, add to that the quantity of an horse bean of white copperas; and

and wash the eyes with this water twice a day ; it is of great use.

To cure the Farcin or Farcy.

First bleed the horse. Take red precipitate, in fine powder, two drams ; and make it into a ball with one ounce of Venice treacle, and give it the horse. After the ball, give the following drink :

Take rue, two handfuls ; roots of madder, sharp pointed dock, of each four ounces ; chips of guaiacum wood, saffras, of each two ounces ; boil them in two quarts of stale beer to three pints, then strain it. Dress the knots with arsenick.

Repeat the ball and drink every third or fourth day, for three doses.

Another.

Take mistletoe, stale piss, honey, and black soap ; infuse them together a day or two, and then warm them, and then wash your horse all over for six days together ; and if the distemper is not got to too great a head, it will cure it.

Another.

Let him bleed on both sides the neck, and give him this drink :

Take a gallon of fair water, and put in it a good handful of rue, and a spoonful of hempseed, being first bruised together in a mortar, then boil them till half is consumed ; when it is cold give it him to drink, which, being repeated, will cure him.

Another.

Steep the regulus of antimony in ale, with a little of the spice called Grains of Paradise, and a little sugar ; of which give a horse about half a pint at a time, two or three times, with about a day or two's intermission between each, and it will cure him.

To cure the Pole Evil, and Swelled Neck from Bleeding.

Take ointment of marshmallows, four ounces ; mercury sublimate corrosive, in fine powder, half an ounce ; mix and apply it to the part.

Cordial Balls for a Horse.

Take anniseeds, cumminseeds, fenugreek seeds, carthamus seeds, grains of Paradise, colts-foot, turmeric, juniper-berries, in fine powder, of each two ounces ; flour of sulphur, elecampane powder, of each four ounces ; juice of liquorice dissolved on the fire in half a pint of white wine, six ounces ; chemical oil of anniseeds, one ounce ; honey, half a pound ; molosses, as much as sufficient to make it into a paste.

To cure a Gangrene and Mortification.

Take of St. John's wort, common wormwood, of each two handfuls ; centaury, camomile-flowers, of each one handful ; bay-berries, six ounces ; wood ashes one pound ; boil these in six quarts of water to a gallon ; and to the strained decoction and spirit of wine, one quart ; camphire one ounce, dissolved in spirit of turpentine four ounces ; bathe the part with woollen cloths dipt
in

in this fomentation, and apply the cloths hot to the part.

To cure the Strangles.

Take sack, one pint; Venice treacle, diapente, of each one ounce; saffron, two drams; mix and give it to the horse. This is a very good cordial for any other disorder where a cordial is proper.

Apply outwardly the following poultice to the part:

Take milk, one quart; rye-flour, oatmeal, of each two handfuls; boil them over a gentle fire till they be thick; then add turpentine, four ounces, dissolved in the yolks of two or three eggs.

To cure a Blood Spavin.

Take up the vein above and below the swelling, then open the tumour in the middle.

To cure a Quitter.

Dress the sore with powder of mercury sublimate.

For a Rheum, or Defluction of Humours on the Eyes.

Rowel the horse on both sides of his neck, and give him liver of antimony.

Mr. Thornton of Bloxham in Lincolnshire, his Receipt to cure the Heat in the Horse's mouth.

Bleed him in the roof of his mouth, and when he has champ't five or six minutes upon his blood, wash his mouth with white wine vinegar and salt; and after that rub it with syrup of black berries; repeat this unction of syrup two or three days, two or three times a day.

Balls

Balls to cure the Grease.

Take liver of antimony, gum guaiacum, fennigreekseeds, and parsley-seeds, of each four ounces powdered fine; molasses, as much as is sufficient to make it into a paste; give the horse the quantity of a hen's egg every other morning, and exercise him well after it, and give him warm water the days he takes them.

For the Canker.

Take red sage, one handful; honey, four ounces; boil them in one pint of vinegar; then strain it, and add allum, white vitriol powdered, of each half an ounce; bole armoniack, one ounce, and apply it to the part cold.

*Mr. Nicholson's Receipt for Botches or Impossu-
mations on a Horse.*

Take barley-meal, and as much southernwood dried and beat to powder; mix these together with the yolks of eggs, till it becomes a salve; then lay it on the swelling, which it will ripen, break, and heal.

*To heal a Wound in a Horse, from Portman
Seymour, Esq.*

There is nothing better to heal a wound in a horse, than tallow and turpentine mixed together.

*For a Lax or Flux in Horses, communicated by
Sir John Packington*

Take a quart of strong beer, and boil in it half a dram of the shells or coverings of the pomegranate fruit, well dried and beat to powder; to
this

this you may add half an ounce of dillseed, and as much fennugreek seeds; pass this through a sieve, and give the dose warm to the horse.

For the Glanders, to carry them off. From General Seymour.

Take a quart of old strong beer, cut a quarter of a pound of figs into it, with two ounces of liquorice sliced; boil them together, and add a dram of flower of ginger, and the same quantity of elecampane and pepper, well powdered; when they are well boiled, put in a quarter of a pound of treacle, and as much fresh butter, with the yolks of two eggs, mixing all well together; give this to the horse warm, and keep him warm.

Lord Orrery's Receipt for a Strangury in a Horse.

Take half an ounce of anniseeds, beaten fine in a marble mortar; one handful of parsley-roots, or in lieu of them, half an ounce of parsley-seeds powdered; boil these in a quart of old strong beer; and when it is strained off, put to it a dram of fine oyster-shell powder, and give the mixture to your horse warm.

Sir John Packington's Receipt for a Dropsy in a Horse.

Bleed your horse in the neck vein, and anoint his fore legs with train oil; then turn him to grass, having first given him the following dose:

A gallon of strong old beer, set over the fire till the scum rises; take that off and then add an handful of wormwood with the stalks, and boil it to a quart; then strain it, and mix with it three ounces

ounces of treacle, and put to it an ounce and half of long pepper, or grains of Paradise, finely powdered; mix these till the composition is warm, and give it him for a dose.

A Drink to dissolve and bring away the Glanders.

Take of sack one quart, or, for want thereof, strong beer; figs, four ounces, well sliced; and two ounces of sliced liquorice; boil them well together; then put in ginger in powder, elecampane and pepper in powder, of each one dram: When it is boiled enough, put in of treacle five ounces, and of butter the same quantity, and the yolks of two new-laid eggs beat well together; give it the horse lukewarm, and order him as needful.

A Drink to bring away the Glanders, when other Drinks have rotted them, and brought them to Suppuration.

Take the best white wine vinegar, and the sharpest, put in it three whole eggs, let them lie twenty-four hours; then beat them well together, shells and all, and give it the horse: You may do so two or three mornings, more or less, as you find occasion; and this will clear off the glanders.

An Ointment for a Strain in the Coffin Joint.

Take of hog's lard, bole armoniack, black soap, and new oil, of each four ounces, put them all into a skillet; let the bole be in fine powder; boil them together a little while, keeping it stirring all the time; put it in a gallipot for use; and when you use it, rub it in well with your hand,

hand, and then heat it with a red hot bar of iron ; and thus do once a-day till you find amendment.

A Charge for the same.

Take of black pitch, *Burgundy* pitch, and common turpentine, of each two ounces, mix them together ; and when all is melted and incorporated, lay it on with a spatula round the joint, as hot as the horse can well bear it ; clap on stocks all over it while it is hot ; and when this peels off lay on another, if there should be occasion.

A Remedy for a Horse that has broke his Leg.

First of all set the bone together right in its place ; then take the best bole armoniack, finely powdered, and the whites of three new-laid eggs, mix them well together ; then take fine tow, and spread it smooth upon it a little broader than the wound, lay it round ; and then take four splinters, and splint it indifferent tight, and so let it lie on nine days (if it do well) before you remove it.

To cure a Horse that has got the running of the Reins.

Take of common turpentine, one pound ; put to it as much of bole armoniack and liquorice, both in fine powder, with as much wheat flour as will make it up into a stiff paste. When you have occasion to use it, roll it out between your hands ; and break off from it a piece of the bigness of a small wash-ball, and give the horse three of them morning and evening upon the end of a stick, or in a hornful or two of strong beer, till you find the flux of seed stopped, which will be in a week or fortnight's time, at farthest : But it will be

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very

very convenient to purge him very well, and cleanse his body first of all, before you give him either of these medicines; which will not only expedite and hasten, but perfect the cure so much the sooner and better.

To cure the Mad Staggers in a Horse.

The signs of this disease are these: He will foam white foam at the mouth, and will seem dull headed; and at that time you will see a blue film over his eyes; and he will wander much up and down.

Be sure to bleed him in both his neck veins, within one or two days after he complains; and in the third, furrow in the palate of his mouth with the point of your cornet horn; you may likewise run an awl into the gristles of his nose, something above his nostrils; the bleeding of the mouth and nose will ease the pain in the head: Then take an handful of rue or herb-grass; three cloves of garlic; of salt and vinegar, each one spoonful; of *aqua vita*, two spoonfuls; bruise all these well together, and then put the one half into one ear and the other half into the other, with a little wool after it: Then tie or stitch up with a needle and thread the ear fast with two list garters; presently after which, fume him at the nostrils through a funnel, with garlic beat in a mortar, with mastich and frankincense mixed together; of these make pellets as big as a bullet; lay them on a chafing-dish of coals, and the smoke will go up through the funnel into the head, and much comfort and cleanse the

the brain; Fume his head three times a-day till you find him mend; then give him the water of white poppies, (which you may have at any apothecary's) at each nostril a spoonful and half; it will cause him to sleep. Let him stand in a warm dark place, where he may see no light. Let him have oats and mashes of ground malt, and let his drink be cold water.

To cure a Quitter-bone.

The quitter-bone grows above the top of the hoof on the hinder foot, and sometimes on the instep, just above the hoof on the side of the foot.

First, take up the vein in the small of the leg: If it be on the inside of the leg above the hoof, take up the vein on the inside of the leg: If it be on the outside, then take up the vein on the outside. After you have taken up the vein, let him bleed well, and put into the wound some butter and salt; then with a little tow or hurds, or a linen cloth wound about the end of your instrument, search the quitter-bone to the bottom; and where you perceive the matter to come out, there put in your instrument. When you have searched the wound, and made it clean, put into it some powder of mercury sublimate; then lay a little tow upon the top, with a linen cloth next, and a woollen cloth over all, tied fast that it may not come off; which repeat once a-day till the core of the quitter-bone is removed; which when you see, make this medicine to heal it up: Take of honey one ounce, put it into a pipkin; and when it begins to be hot, put in of verdi-

grease in fine powder two drams, and three or four spoonfuls of white wine vinegar; boil them together for half an hour; then take it off the fire, and when it is cold, take a little fine tow and dip it into it, and put it into the wound, and lay a little dry tow, or hurds over that, and a linen cloth over them; bind them on with a string, and so dress it once a-day till you see it begins to heal, then dress it but once in two days.

To take away any Rheum from a Horse's Eye, and to clear it.

Take fresh butter and salt, of each a like quantity; mix them well together, and take about the bigness of a small walnut, and put it into the horse's ear, on that side that the rheum is on; and if the rheum be in both eyes, put it into both ears, and it will dry up the rheum, and clear his eyes; but observe, you must sew up his ears close, or else he will shake it out.

To cure a Bite or Stroke in a Horse's Eye.

Take of honey, ginger in a very subtil powder, and the juice of celandine, of each a like quantity; mix them well together, and put it into his eyes with a feather twice a-day.

For the Eye-lids of a Horse that are swelled, and the insides turned outwards.

! If you should meet with a horse whose eye-lids are so swelled that the insides of them are turned outwards very red, and, as it were, full of blisters, and yet the ball of the eye sound and good; keep

keep him very warm with a hood of linen cloth upon his head; and then anoint his eyes twice a-day with white sugar candy, honey, and white rose water; and in two or three days time they will turn into their places again: Then bleed him well in the neck; for it is bad blood and a cold rheum, which is the chief occasion of this distemper being settled in the head. Do not clip or meddle with the blistered bladders, or any part of the eye, lest you should put out his eyes, or endanger his life, or at least cause your horse to be blear-eyed.

To cure the Splint, Spavin, Curb, or any hard Swelling.

Take nerve ointment, four ounces; mercury sublimate corrosive, in fine powder, half an ounce; camphire, two drams dissolved in oil; of origanum, half an ounce; mix, and apply it to the part every other day.

For the curb, you must leave out the mercury sublimate, and apply it every day.

To cure a dry husky Cough, which will cause the Horse to cast out the filth and corruption at his Nostrils.

Take a head of garlic, and peel every clove very clean; then put them into a linen cloth, and boil them in a quart of milk, till the garlic becomes tender; take it off, and strain it till you have squeezed the garlic hard, and the juice out; set it a cooling, then put to it honey, molosses, of each half a pound, and give it him blood warm.

Balls

Balls for the worst of Colds in Horses.

Take a quarter of an ounce of cloves, one ounce of the flowers of rosemary powdered, white tartar, seeds of fenugreek, diapente, syrup of coltsfoot, honey, of each two ounces; wheat flour as much as is sufficient to make them into a paste; give one of them in a morning fasting, and ride him after it.

To cure the Bloody Flux, or Pissing of Blood.

Take three pints of new milk, and boil in it, over a gentle fire, five ounces of isinglass, which, when it is dissolved, will so thicken the milk that it will look like cream; then strain it through a sieve, to take out the dross of the isinglass that will remain undissolved, and give it to your horse lukewarm in the morning fasting; and at twice or thrice giving it will cure him.

To cause a Horse to Stale or Piss freely.

Take the bigness of a large walnut of castile soap, dissolve it in a quart of warm beer, with two ounces of bruised parsley-seed; give it him, and ride him moderately after it; then set him up warm.

To cure the Vives in a Horse.

Take black pepper in fine powder, one ounce; hog's lard, a spoonful; the juice of an handful of rue, and two spoonfuls of vinegar; mix them well together, and put some into each of the horse's ears, and so tie or stitch them close; then let him bleed in the neck and temple veins.

A Drench for a Horse that has the Megrim.

Take of the tops of rosemary, about three ounces, and chop them small; then take a quarter of a pound of sweet butter, and work them with it; then break it in pieces, and roll it into several balls as big as walnuts.

Then holding up the horse's head, put them gently down his throat, and ride the horse easily about half an hour to make the medicine work. This is good for a horse in flesh.

After you have given him a gentle sweat, the balls will clear his stomach and bowels, and at the same time help the head.

This must be given to the horse early in the morning fasting.

Of the Colt Evil, or shedding of the Seed.

For the colt-evil, take the powder of anniseeds, and the leaves of betony, equally proportioned; stamp them with white wine till they come to a thin paste; with which mixture anoint the sore, and it will cure that imperfection in the yard.

But if the horse shed his seed, then take Venice turpentine and sugar mixed together, and give him every morning a ball until the flux is stopped: If you add a little of the inner bark of oak, it is very good; or the powder of an acorn is still better. This distemper commonly happens in August, and, when it is very hot weather, in May.

For the Bladders in a Horse's Mouth.

The cure is to open them with a lancet; and then pressing out the corruption, wash the sore place

place three or four times a-day with warm allum water, in which some red sage and a little honey has been boiled.

Of the Bloody Rists in the Palate of the Mouth.

First wash the sore place with vinegar and salt till it be raw; then take honey, well mixed with the powder of jett, and rub it upon the sore, and it will soon heal it; or else boil an handful of the inner bark of elm in a pint and half of spring-water, till it comes to half the quantity, adding then a little honey to the decoction; and use it warm twice or thrice a-day.

To cure the Chords in a Horse.

Take of diapente, half an ounce; powder of anniseeds, one ounce; saffron powdered, half a dram; honey, an ounce and half; fresh butter, two ounces; strong beer, one pint and half; the sharpest vinegar, half a pint: heat these and mix them over the fire till the butter and honey are melted; then take the mixture and give it the horse milk warm fasting.

After which walk him till he is warm; then set him up, and tie him upon the bit five or six hours; cloath and litter him up warm, and after that give him a little hay, and then a mash; but no water of any sort that night.

The next day, in the morning, give him another mash; and about nine or ten o'clock warm water and bran; and continue this practice for four or five days. Then cut him, and in that operation, observe that he must be cut at the
very

very bottom of the breast, where you see the vein; under which vein lies the great sinew. When you see where the vein lies, draw the skin aside which lies over the vein, and cut that part of the skin an inch or more just upon the vein: Then with your cornet-horn's point make a little way, and you will see a blue film lie over the vein; chafe that with your cornet to pieces, till you come to see the clear vein, and then with your cornet-horn draw the vein aside with one hand, and put the point of your cornet under the sinew, and with it raise the sinew above the skin, cutting it immediately quite asunder, and then let it go

Then put a little butter and salt into the wound, and heal it up with common turpentine and tallow mixed together.

Walk then the horse an hour at a time, twice a-day, for five or six days; and if you find, that with the first drink, the cold breaks at his nostrils, then give him the same drink again, at three or four days distance between each drink, and order him as directed at first.

To make Diapente.

Take the roots of both aristolochia's, fine myrrh, bay berries, shavings of ivory, or hart's horn, and the roots of gentian, of each four ounces; when they have been gently dried, make them into a fine powder, which must be kept in a glass bottle, and a dry place.

For a Strain.

Take of hog's lard, nerve oil, bole armoniack,
* I and

and castile-soap, of each one pound ; boil them well together, keeping them stirring till the composition is cold ; keep it in a pipkin for your use, and, when you have occasion, anoint the place affected with this unguent warm, rubbing it well in.

Of Pissing Blood, and the Remedy.

This distemper comes from some strain ; whenever you find it, bleed the horse, and give him some styptic liquor (which may be had at any apothecary's) about a large spoonful in a pint of warm strong beer, which will bring him to order.

For a Pain in the Kidneys, or the Stone.

Take a handful of maidenhair, and steep it for twelve hours in a quart of strong beer, and give it the horse to drink every morning till he is well, adding to every draught about ten drops of spirit of turpentine.

To cure the Spleen in Horses.

Take agrimony, and boil one handful of it in the water which the horse is to drink mornings and evenings, chopping the leaves small when they are boiled ; and then mix them well with fresh butter, to be made into balls ; of which give to the horse two or three at a time, in the manner of pills, with a horn of old strong beer after each ball.

Ordering of Mares after Foaling.

As soon as your mare hath foaled, you should remove her into the best grass you have, which

is fresh and unsoiled, to make her milk spring; and if it be early in the year, take care that there be good shelter for her, and let her colt run with her most part of the summer following.

For a Mare after Foaling, when she has a Difficulty of Cleaning.

If your mare has been difficult in foaling, or cannot cleanse after she has foaled, take a quart of old strong beer, and boil in it an handful of fennel, with a fourth part of the best oil olive, and mix them well together. Give this to the mare milk-warm, by pouring it into her nostrils, and holding them up and stopping them close till she strain her whole body, and it will presently give her ease.

Ordering a Colt after Weaning.

When you intend to wean your foals, you must take from them their dams over night, and drive them into some empty house where they may rest, and the mares be free from their noise.

On the morning following, give to every foal fasting, a sprig or two of favin, rolled up in butter, and let him fast for two hours: Then give him a little meat, as grass, hay, or chaff, with some clear water; and repeat this management three days successively; when they will have forgot their dams: Then geld such colt foals as you intend to make geldings of; and after their swellings are past, put them with your other colt-foals into a pasture by themselves, and your fillies into another by themselves. These pastures

should be large spacious pieces of ground, where they may run till they are ready for the saddle.

To provoke Lust in Mares.

If you have any particular opportunity of a fine stallion, when your mare is not naturally disposed to receive him, or will not stand to be covered : In this case, to provoke lust in her, give her drink of clarified honey and new milk mixed together ; and then with a bush of nettles pat her hinder-parts, and immediately after offer her the horse, which she will receive.

For the Cholick, or Belly bound.

Take of dill or fennel, a handful, or, in the room of the herbs, take an ounce of the seeds of either of them, with a quart of malt fresh ground, and boil them in the water you give your horse to drink ; but if he cannot dung, then you may boil in his water one handful of fennugreek, and it will loosen his body, and bring him to order.

Of Diseases in Horse's Ears ; and first of the Lave Ears, or hanging Ears.

The hanging of the ears is called by some the *Lave Ears* ; and although it is not any pain to the horse, yet it is a disgrace to see him in this appearance, and so disagreeable to every beholder, that it even hides and obscures all other virtues. It is an infirmity proceeding from nature ; and although few of our farriers either have endeavoured or know how to help it, yet such has been the care of others to know the true

true cause of it, that, by trying many conclusions, in the end they have hit upon a certain cure, and have lately helped many horses in that condition. The cure is this: Take your horse's ears, and place them in such a manner as you would desire they should stand, and then, with two little boards, three fingers broad, and having long strings fixed to them, bind the ears so fast in the places wherein they stand, that by no means or motion they may stir.

Betwixt the head and the root of the ear, you will discover a great deal of wrinkled empty skin, which with your finger and thumb you must lift up, and then with a sharp pair of scissors clip away all the thin skin close to the head; after which, with a needle and silk, you must stitch the two edges of the skin close together; and then with a salve made of turpentine, bees-wax, deer's suet, and honey, of each a like quantity melted together, heal up the sore. Which done, take away the splints which supported the ears, and the ears will keep upright, and in the same place as you set them.

Of Cramps, or Convulsions of the Sinews or Muscles.

Cramps, or convulsions of the sinews, are violent contractions or drawings together of members, either throughout the whole body, or particularly in one member: They proceed either from causes natural, or causes accidental: If from natural causes, they either come from too great fulness or emptiness.

When from fulness, they proceed from a surfeit

feit of meat or drink, or the want of proper evacuation; when from emptiness, they come from too much blood-letting, or too much purging, or too much labouring; all which fill the hollownes of the sinews with cold windy vapours, which are the only great causes of convulsions. If they come from causes accidental, then it is from some received wound, where a sinew is but half cut asunder, or only pricked, which presently causeth a convulsion over the whole body. The signs of the disease are: The horse will carry his neck stiff, and not be able to stir it; his back will rise up like the back of the camel, or like a bent bow; his crupper will shrink inward, his fore legs will stand close together, and his belly will be clung up to his back-bone; when he lies down he is not able to rise, especially from the weakness in his hinder limbs.

This disease is frequent among horses, and the cure is this:

First sweat him, either by burying him all, save the head, in a dunghill, or else by applying hot blankets durbled about each side of his heart and body; then, after his sweat, anoint all his body over with oil of petrolium; for it is much better than oil of bay, or oil of cypress.

Then give him to drink the following liquor, viz. Take one dram of assa foedita, with anniseeds, seeds of fenugreek, and cummin-seeds, of each half an ounce; put these into a quart of strong white wine, and add to the composition, three or four large spoonfuls of oil olive; keeping him warm after the drink, and feeding him with good
bean

bean bread, and warm masses, made of ground malt and warm water, and his sinews will soon come to their former ability.

But if the convulsion comes accidentally, as by the prick or half cut of a sinew, then search for the wounded sinew, and with a pair of scissars clip it asunder, and the convulsion will cease: But if it be a cramp only, and so but in one member, then if you do but chafe or rub the grieved part with a hard wisp or hay rope, the pain will cease.

Of the Imposthume in the Ear.

Take one handful of sorrel, and wrap it in a burdock leaf; let this roast in hot embers till the sorrel is softened; apply this as hot as possible to the imposthumated part which is within the ear, shifting it every day till it hath ripened and broke it.

A Drench for a Horse that is Feeble and Faint, and frequently attended with a Coldness or Shivering.

Take the leaves of cowslips, hyssop, harts-tongue, and liverwort, of each a handful, chopt small; add to these the roots of birthwort, gentian, and elecampane dried, to which put some long pepper; so that when they are beaten and powdered, there may be an equal quantity of each, *i. e.* as much of each sort as may fill a common spoon; mix these well together, and put to them an ounce or two of common treacle, or else a spoonful of honey.

Boil all these together in a quart of strong beer till

till the liquor is reduced to a pint, then strain it, and give it the horse milk-warm.

This drink, as it will make the horse dry, will perhaps make him lose his appetite to eat; but if you perceive this, give him a warm mash.

You may repeat the drench two or three times, resting three days between each time, and must keep the horse in a warm stable on the days he has taken the drench.

For the Yellows.

Take of diapente an ounce, put it into a skillet with a pint and a half of mild beer; then set it on the fire, and let it just boil; then take it off the fire, and put to it four ounces of common treacle, and two ounces of butter; stir them well together, and give it your horse blood-warm in a horn, walking him a while after it; and set him in a warm stable.

Another for the same, more comfortable.

Take of diapente an ounce and a half, put it into a skillet with a pint and a half, of white wine, set it on the fire and let it just boil; then take it off the fire, and dissolve in it one ounce of London treacle, and two ounces of butter; stir them well together, and give it the horse as before, keeping him warm as in taking physic.

OBSER-

F I N I S.

